it is almost impossible to get fast to a whale if he is going to windward. There is a three and four knot current running there and whales that are raised to windward generally go clear unless they are going to leeward, in which case the ship can work to windward of them before she lowers her boats; and then it is not always a sure thing. The line whales are mostly cows and calves, making from 10 to 30 bls. When we we cruising off New Nantucket we took five whales which made us 100 bls. We could have taken 300 bls. bls. on Japan or New Zealand with less than half the trouble. Another reason we have is that scarcely a day passes that you do not see one or more ships, many of which are just from home. Last season we took but 100 bls. But it was the first time that Capt. M. had cruised in that vicinity, which added to the circumstance of going into port in the best part of the season, during which time nearly every ship on the ground had taken oil, explains the mystery at once.

Turned the waist boat on the cranes and gave it a coat of paint. Mbn 32.52 T, Hprh. Heading E. by N.

Cfd. 9ui.= Ellyhin csffaf, gjof afbnifs. Ubdffe jo nif nprojoh abudi. Fcz T. 22. C, T.T.X. Kf tipme ibuf effo fro pws dsvjtjoh hspwe cm gpc nif dpatubo ifbe ajoet af ibuf had tjodf mfbwjoh nif qnjof. Je djscontubodft qfsnjn, jn jt nif jonfsnjfpo pg nif dbqubjo wp uptdli bu Opsqpnj jtimboe gps sfdsvjut. Kfu impe. Ifbejoh uspsbi nif ojhjo bepto T.T.X. [Lat. 22.51 S, long. 161.04 E. – Dec. 10th]

Dec. 10th.= Beautiful weather, light wind, but dead ahead, as usual. Tacked at 8 A. M. heading E. by S., which is a little nearer our course. Tacked at 5 P. M. = S.S.W. Very strong breze through the night. Tacked topgallant sails and fly jib, and reefed fore topsail.

Dec. 11th. – Very strong breze. Clear weather. Wind dead ahead. Heading S. W. by S. 6 A. M. reefed main topsail. 10 A. M. furled main-sail, jib and spanker. 2 P. M. wind hauled, and weather moderated some, heading S. by E. Set jib and spanker. Lat. 23.34 S, long. 160.30 E. 7 P. M. set mainsail. 9 P. M. reef out of main topsail.

Dec. 12th. – Clear weather, strong breze. S. by E. 10 A. M. light wind, S.E. by S. Made all sail. Varnished quarter deck stanchions, painted plank-shear and house on the same. Commenced, painting plank-shear on main deck. Lat. 25 S, long. 160.00 E. 7 P. M. tacked = E. by S.

Dec. 13th. = Calm. Painting plankshear, bulwarks, &c, on main deck. 10 A. M. light breze = E. Lat. 25.54 S., long. 160.10 E. 2 P. M. fair wind, course E.S.E. Light breze all night.

Dec. 14th. = Light breze S.E. Coal-tarring iron work. Made tarpaulin for mizzen hatch. Sunset, strong breze; furled topgallant sails, gaff-topsail and fly jib. S.E. by S. Squally, with heavy sea through the night.

Dec. 15th. = Fine weather, fresh breze. S.E. by E. Set main topgallant sail. 12 M. S.E. About 8 A. M. the 2d mate sang out from the mast-head for a large whale right under the bow. We hauled the main topsail aback, put the line tubs in the boats, and awaited till he should again appear. After laying to an hour and seeing nothing of him we braced forward, with the conclusion that it was a bone shark. They have a square head, like a sperm whale, and grow to an enormous size. Lat. 28. 25 S, long. 162.01 E. 2 P. M. set fly jib and gaff topsail. E.S.E. 6 P. M. wind